

# FBI joins search for Aptos woman

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10-30-91  
APTOS — The FBI has joined the investigation into the suspected kidnapping of a 25-year-old Aptos woman.

Agents from the San Jose regional office of the FBI volunteered Tuesday morning to assist local authorities in the case of Arlene Kazuko Tsuji, who was last seen around 7 p.m. Thursday when she left her Vienna Woods home for a walk.

Authorities have few clues in Tsuji's disappearance, despite more than four days of searching the Vienna Woods area, the nearby Thousand Oaks/Haas Drive neighborhood in Aptos and acres of open space between Cabrillo College and the northern border of Nisene Marks State Park.

On Monday, investigators determined Tsuji was probably the vic-

tim of an abduction. Investigators also are exploring possible links between Tsuji's disappearance and a previously unreported incident in Vienna Woods. On Oct. 15, three men tried to force a 20-year-old woman into a late-model foreign pickup truck.

Sheriff's investigators concentrated their probe Tuesday in the Vienna Drive and Danube Drive areas of Vienna Woods, a quiet, upper-middle class semi-rural subdivision, this time with help from the FBI. The agents also re-interviewed Vienna Woods residents and Tsuji's co-workers Tuesday.

Ken Thompson, supervising special agent for the FBI's "Squad 3" department in San Jose, said the bureau would be bringing in specialists in the field of "behavioral science profiling. ...

"As time goes by we'll try to

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bring as many people to bear on the problem as we can," said Thompson. The FBI profilers, he said, will look "across the board" in an effort to develop possible suspects in the Tsuji disappearance.

"We are going to do the best we can to try to get a profile of any potential suspects in the case," said Thompson. "We'll be working through every scrap of evidence to develop the best suspect category that we can." The federal agents, he said, will work the case until it is resolved.

The agent said there was no particular lead or development in the Tsuji case which hastened the FBI's involvement.

The bureau's protocol for joining local agencies in kidnap investigations has changed in recent years, he said.

"The bureau accepts the nature of kidnapping has changed," Thompson said. "It involves many different types of victims now." The traditional kidnap-for-ransom case has yielded to infant abductions and kidnappings by strangers.

FBI agents have at their disposal investigative tools unavailable to local authorities, including infrared air-search capabilities and quick access to the records of many federal agencies.

"They've got some resources that we don't have, and they can

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— Ken Thompson,  
FBI agent

help us that way," said Sgt. Craig Little of the county Sheriff's Office.

Meanwhile, residents of the Vienna Woods will get "Neighborhood Watch" training from a Sheriff's Office representative early next week. Several residents, said Little, have called the department with concerns about safety there. The sergeant recommended self-defense classes, and walking during the day or in pairs.

Tsuji is described as Asian, 5 feet tall, around 103 pounds, with straight, brownish-black shoulder-length hair and brown eyes. She was last seen wearing a gray, long-sleeve pullover sweatshirt with a hood, and black baggy short pants with cuffs. Anyone with information about Tsuji's disappearance is urged to call 425-2121 or 425-2431.